GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2203
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
MEDICINAL AND HERBAL PLANTS
SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers supplying medicinal and herbal plants for the global herbal medicine and cosmetics industry are facing problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the agencies and institutions involved in encouraging farmers to use latest technology for better and quicker yields of these plants and help them sell the produce in the global market?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): As per the Task Force on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plantsconstituted by the Planning Commission, the farmers involved in the medicinal plants sector are facing problems like reduced availability from the wild due to over harvesting, lack of awareness on stage of maturity, inadequate storage facilities, lack of information on marketing and trade, poor marketing facilities, lack of quality standards and poor coordination between stake holders.

(c): The following agencies are involved in encouraging the farmers to use the latest technologies for getting higher yield and higher income;

(i). The National Research Centre on Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Anand, Gujarat under the I.C.A.R.

(ii). Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, U.P. under the C.S.I.R.

(iii). Deptt. of Agriculture & Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing developmental programmes on Medicinal and Aromatic Plants through the State Agricultural Universities.

(iv). National medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.